(c) the role of officials of the Forest Department to check the theft of medicinal plants?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The export consignment of medicinal, plants, even if declared by their local names, are subjected to preshipment examination by the Customs and Wildlife authorities since April, 1, 1994 when the ban was imposed. Export of 6 species listed in Appendix I of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) was banned earlier. Preshipment inspection is carried out to ensure that only the permitted species are exported and that all necessary documentation has been produced.

Children working in brackish water

8324. SHRI SANATAN BISI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any survey has been conducted with regard to the children working in brackish water for Prawn seed thereby suffering from gastro-enteritis, skin diseases, week eye-sight and back pain; and

(b) if so, what preventive measures have been taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Question does not arise.

Shortage of cement in Latur for reconstruction

8325. DR. BAPU KALDATE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item published in the 'Asian Age' dated the 7th March 1995 under the heading 'Cement shortage hampers Laur reconstruction';

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) whether the required quantity of cement has since been made available; and if so, the details thereof; and

(d) by when the entire construction work would be over?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) to (d) According to the information received from the State Government of Maharashtra, shortage of Cement was experienced in the month of February, 1995. Thereafter, a meeting of all major cement manufacturers was called by the State Government on 8th March, 1995 in which regular supply of cement was assured. As a result of this, sufficient quantity of cement is being received and as of now there is no shortage of cement. During the period 15th March to 9th May, 1995, 2348 M.T. of cement was received for Latur district. The work of reconstruction of houses in relocated and non-relocated villages, will be completed by 30th June, 1997, as per the loan agreement signed with the World Bank authorities.

Un-chlorinated Water Supply in IARI

8326. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Water Supply in Chiria Colony of IARI, Pusa, New Delhi through tubewells maintained by the CPWD is not chlorinated which has led to a sudden spurt in Gastro-enteritis cases in these places;

(b) if so, the facts thereof; and

(c) the action Government propose to take in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) & (b) Water is being supplied to the Chiria Colony which is one of the residential